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March 28, 2001

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US Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch (HFA 305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fisher's Lane, rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket No. 00N-1396, and 00D-1598

Dear Sir or Madam:

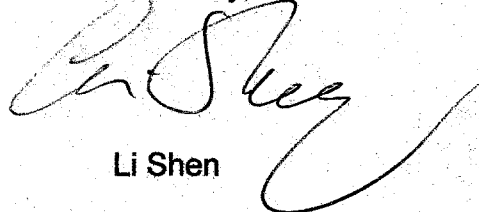
I am writing to register my strenuous opposition to the FDA's proposed new rules on genetically **engineered** (GE) foods. I find the rules to be **deficient** in two respects.

The "voluntary labeling" policy denies consumers a basic right to know what is in their food. I will always opt to avoid food with GE components **for reasons** of food safety, as well as environmental considerations. I find it totally unacceptable for a **corporation** or a government agency to deny me the information I need to make that choice. It is my understanding that not a single producer of GE food has agreed to label their **products**.

The new rules fail to require testing to demonstrate that **consumer** safety is protected; **In** addition, they require no review of potential environmental risks posed by the production of any given **GE** food. I am especially alarmed by the potential for **irreparable** damage to the environment.

Your proposed rules ignore serious concerns, and appear to be designed for the **profit** of industry at the expense of public health and the environment. As the overwhelming response to the early **drafts** of the organic standards has demonstrated, consumers demand full and honest information regarding the sources of their food. I hope you will take this clear predominance of opinion into account, **and** make appropriate changes to **your** rules regarding GE foods.

Sincerely,



Li Shen

00N 1396

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